

Working for Southeast Washington

Project Highlights - FY 2003 -

This region includes Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, Walla Walla, and Whitman Counties.

(For Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, and Stevens Counties, please see our Eastern Washington section at <http://murray.senate.gov/region-eastern>)

AGRICULTURE

See also: <http://murray.senate.gov/agriculture>

Protecting and Enhancing Washington's Wine Industry (\$850,000)

Senator Murray secured funding to protect the Washington wine industry. The FY 2003 Omnibus Appropriations Act includes an \$850,000 increase for viticulture research in the Pacific Northwest. The increase includes \$150,000 to develop a clean "motherblock" for the Washington wine industry. As the industry grows, it needs a disease and virus-free "motherblock" of plant material. The industry has grown so rapidly that there are concerns that farmers are planting grapevine that may contain viruses that could devastate the industry. One of the strengths of our industry is that our rootstock is clean. The research dollars secured will help to build a new, clean rootstock for distribution to existing and new growers. The bill also includes \$400,000 for the Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research for viticulture research. \$200,000 will go directly for research at the center.

Western Wheat Quality Lab (\$75,000 increase in FY 2003)

Senator Murray secured a \$75,000 increase in funding for the WWQL in Pullman. This facility conducts research to ensure that Washington's wheat farmers are growing a crop for which there is an overseas market. Wheat is Washington's number one agricultural export, bringing \$878 million into our state.

Animal Research (\$900,000)

This funding will support initiatives at WSU to make sure that livestock producers have disease-free animals and to conduct research on animal diseases to ensure that our agriculture industry is prepared for a possible future attack on the U.S. food supply.

Rural and Farmworker Housing Trust, Statewide Initiative (\$200,000)

The housing trust will use the funding to kickstart its operations. The new organization will raise funding to create affordable housing for farmworkers in Washington State. RAFHT is the result of four years of work between Senator Murray, the Latino community, farmers, and affordable housing developers. Senator Murray has joined with leaders in these communities to address Washington State's tremendous need for safe and affordable farmworker housing. RAFHT's goal will be to raise the tens of millions of dollars needed to build new -- and rehabilitate existing -- farmworker housing throughout the state.

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Protecting Washington State Tree Fruit from Viruses (\$250,000)

The NRSP-5 facility at Washington State University's Irrigated Agriculture and Extension Center in Prosser, Washington is responsible for obtaining and distributing virus-free deciduous tree fruit material to farmers. Rapid foreign and domestic exchange of varieties is essential for the continued economic vitality of the U.S. tree fruit and nursery industries. The facility will use the funding to implement new technologies for more rapid and dependable methods of pathogen detection and to provide secure production and maintenance of virus-free fruit tree cultivars.

Rural Technology (\$900,000)

The Rural Technology Transfer Initiative to continue to help small landowners use up-to-date technology to maximize timber harvest while protecting important habitat.

SECURITY

See also: http://murray.senate.gov/homeland_security and <http://murray.senate.gov/justice>

Pullman/Moscow International Airport (\$95,345)

The Pullman/Moscow International Airport received \$95,345 to increase security.

New Police Officers for Southeastern Washington

<http://murray.senate.gov/justice>
<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov>

Since 1993, Senator Murray's support of the COPS program has put more than 1,800 new police officers on Washington streets, including:

SOUTHEAST REGION	33.4 *	\$7,921,224
Adams County	7	\$554,301
Asotin County	3.5	\$247,671
Garfield County	2	\$147,293
Walla Walla County	12.9	\$1,025,260
Whitman County	8	\$5,946,699

* Note: Decimals reflect that some county police departments only requested a portion of a full-time officer's salary.

Senator Murray has championed the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program. She voted for the law that created it in 1993, and every year she has worked to fund this effort to put new police officers on the streets of these communities where they work closely with residents.

ENVIRONMENT

See also: <http://murray.senate.gov/environment>

Walla Walla Watershed Alliance (\$500,000)

The Walla Walla Watershed Alliance is a local grassroots organization that includes the irrigation district, farmers, and other stakeholders. With the funding, the Alliance will work with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to develop a comprehensive irrigation management

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plan and to demonstrate model farm practices to increase flows in the Walla Walla River while maintaining water for irrigation needs.

Walla Walla Watershed (\$650,000)

The project is a joint effort by farmers, irrigators, tribes, environmentalists, and the Corps of Engineers to increase flows in the Walla Walla River while maintaining water for irrigation needs.

Columbia Basin Groundwater Management Area Project (\$180,000)

The Columbia Basin Ground Water Management Area Project develops and implements locally driven solutions to address ground water quality in areas of documented nitrate concern in Franklin, Grant and Adams County.

TECHNOLOGY

High-Speed Internet Access to Rural Communities

Sen. Murray wrote and introduced the *Rural Telecommunications Act*. This legislation would provide grants to encourage community telecommunications planning in rural and underserved areas. If adopted, Congress would provide up to \$3 million a year in planning grants to help local and tribal governments, non-profits, public utilities, cooperatives and other public groups develop effective, targeted plans to bring high-speed internet access to their areas. It was passed in the Senate as part of the Farm Bill, but was dropped in Conference. Sen. Murray will continue to fight for it.

WSU P-3 Micro Power Devices Program (\$1.8 million)

WSU will receive funding for the continued development of the P-3 Micro Power Devices Program. These intelligence-gathering systems have the potential to produce breakthroughs in medicine, consumer electronics, computers, space technology and other scientific engineering applications.

WSU-VLSI Space Vehicle Communications Technology (\$1.4 million)

This technology is being developed as a hardened, wireless communications system for use in space craft.

TRANSPORTATION

See also: <http://murray.senate.gov/transportation>

US Highway 12, Burbank to Walla Walla (\$4.4 million)

US Highway 12, from Burbank to Walla Walla is a heavily traveled two-lane highway with average daily traffic counts up to 12,000 vehicles per day. Nearly one-third of those vehicles are freight trucks. This money will help fund Phase II of this project. Specifically, it will build a railroad bridge over the highway to allow for the building of a four-lane highway.

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Pullman Transit -- Buses (\$1.18 million)

This funding allows Pullman Transit to replace five, old 35-foot buses with new models. It will reduce emissions and pollutants and increase safety.

Port of Garfield Road and Bridge Project (\$500,000)

The project will create a new access road and bridge to join Highway 12 to the Port of Garfield's industrial site. The project will give the Port the opportunity to develop the only industrial site in Garfield County and will help diversify the county's economic base. The project will also help ease commercial truck traffic through residential areas. This funding will complete the project.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Rural Community Assessments (\$90,000)

The Washington State Rural Development Council will use the funding to help rural communities assess strengths and weaknesses, develop strategies to meet their economic, community, and human service goals, and link them to resources to build on and implement local plans. The Town of Quincy, Washington and the surrounding region recently went through the community assessment process. It was a huge success and this funding will help the council to reach out to many more rural communities.